THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SWAMI CHINMAYANAND): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government have received reports about the increase in the number of places of worship and religious instruction along some of the border areas of the country, particularly Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bangladesh borders.

(b) There is no proposal to ban the construction of places of worship in the country. However, the feasibility of enacting a legislation to regulate the construction of places of worship and of religious instruction in specified border belt including the coastal belt is receiving Government's attention.

Security to tourists and pilgrims visiting J&K

318. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken to provide security to tourists visiting Jammu and Kashmir during summer vacations and pilgrims that would be arriving for Amarnath Yatra;

(b) whether the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir has asked for more security cover from the Union Government during its tourist seasons and Amarnath Yatra;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of steps the Union Government propose to take to ensure that both tourists and pilgrims visiting Jammu and Kashmir are safe from militancy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) The State Government has informed that they have elaborate security arrangements for tourists who are visiting the State as also for the Amarnath Ki Yatra. Keeping in view the increases in the tourists in flow both domestic as well as foreigners in J&K, the assistance of Para Military Forces like BSF/CRPF has also been obtained to strengthen arrangements being made by local police.

(b) to (d) Central Police Forces are deployed in J&K as an aid to the State Government, keeping in view the overall security scenario and availability of these Forces. Like every year, additional forces have been

provided to the Government of J&K to make security arrangements for the Amarnath Yatra 2003.

Allotment of funds for fencing the Indo-Bangla Border

319. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount provided for fencing the Indo-Bangla Border during the last two years; and

(b) the amount spent during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SWAMICHINMAYANAND): (a) The Government of India releases funds to the executing agencies under two heads i.e. for construction works and for maintenance of Indo-Bangladesh Border roads and fencing. During the last two years, the details of funds provided for fencing are given in the table below:

(Figures in crores of Rupees)

Year	Construction works	Maintenance works	Total
2001-02	100.00	20.00	120.00
2002-03	110.10	20.00	130.10

(b) The details of amount spent during the last two years are given in the table below:

(Figures in crores of Rupees)

Year	Construction works	Maintenance works	Total
2001-02	78.41	19.76	98.17
2002-03	115.21	11.38	126.59